

Seminar

**Shakespearean Migrations**

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The recent refusal by the Italian government to allow a boat full of African refugees to dock there is but the latest instance of the vast migration problem facing contemporary Europe and the authorities' inability and/or reluctance to deal satisfactorily with it. But the issues raised by migration to Europe from a range of different locations go back several centuries and, as the work of Shakespeare reveals, were of sufficient concern to have found a place in the literature of the early modern period. The panel welcomes contributions on Shakespeare's treatment of migration, whatever its motivation (war and physical abuse, political expediency or simple 'wanderlust') and source or destination of the migrant. Contributors might explore either the conditions (social, political, economic, etc.) to which the texts were a response, the treatment of migration in the texts themselves, the response of critics or the subsequent adaptation/appropriation of the texts to address the circumstances of the various regions or nations of Europe at specific historical junctures.

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